



**Charting the Course to 2025:
The County of York Comprehensive Plan Review
Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee**

Meeting Notice

York County Environmental & Development Services Building
105 Service Drive, Yorktown
Thursday, December 16, 2004
6:00 PM

Agenda

1. Call to order

2. Review of Transportation Trends, Plans, Projects, and Initiatives

Continuing with the baseline analysis of existing conditions, staff will give a presentation on major transportation trends, plans, projects, and initiatives in the County. The various modes of travel – including air, bikeways, highways, rail, transit, walkways, and waterways – will be discussed.

3. Meeting Schedule

The Steering Committee will be asked to identify possible meeting dates in January. Please bring your calendars.

4. Other

5. Adjourn

Attachment

- Meeting Notes of December 8, 2004



Charting the Course to 2025: The County of York Comprehensive Plan Review Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee

Meeting Notes

York County Environmental and Development Services Building
Multi-Purpose Room
105 Service Drive
Thursday, December 16, 2004
6:00 PM

Members Present: Nick Barba, Ken Bowman, Jack Christie, Jack Davis, Ron Kurz, Carl Loveland, Al Ptasznik

Staff Present: Mark Carter, Tim Cross, Amy Parker, Earl Anderson

Chairman Barba called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Mr. Cross gave a PowerPoint presentation summarizing County transportation trends, plans, and initiatives. He stated that the *Code of Virginia* was amended in recent years to require localities to include a transportation element in their comprehensive plans, but he noted that York County, like most localities, has always had a transportation element in its plan even before it was mandated. He discussed the many modes of transportation, including not just highways but also air, bikeways, rail, transit, and waterways. Mr. Cross gave an overview of the various special and ongoing transportation planning efforts currently underway, including the long-range Regional Transportation Plan for Hampton Roads; the State Six-Year Improvement Program and Secondary Road Plan; the Peninsula Rail Transit Project; the Richmond/Hampton Roads Passenger Rail Study; the regional bikeway plan for Williamsburg, James City County, and York County; and the Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport master plan update.

Mr. Carter spoke about each of the projects in the County's six-year secondary road plan, stating that no new projects have been added for several years because of the lack of funding. He noted that projected funding allocations are 40% lower than they were just a few years ago and are expected to decline over the six-year horizon of the plan.

Finally, Mr. Cross presented maps showing the levels of congestion that are projected to exist on York County's major roads by 2026. Mr. Christie commented that much of this congestion would result in increased traffic on local roads as people seek alternate routes to avoid the major congested corridors. He suggested a County bond referendum as a potential source of additional funds for road construction. Mr. Carter responded that the Board of Supervisors currently provides some funding out of the County's General Fund for road projects through the VDOT Revenue Sharing program, which allows localities to leverage transportation dollars by contributing up to a maximum of \$500,000 annually – matched by the state on a 50/50 basis – for highway projects. He added that for the past several years the Board has lobbied the General Assembly to raise the \$500,000 limit.

Mr. Loveland commented on the link between transportation and communications and the need to focus on technological changes and not just physical infrastructure. He mentioned telecommuting as an example. Mr. Kurz agreed, citing the growing prevalence of e-commerce and the increased ability of people to work from home. Mr. Loveland also spoke about the growth of "live/work" developments on the west coast where people live and work in a single development, which helps to lessen road congestion. Mr. Barba responded that higher residential densities would be needed to support such a development in the County, and he commented that

members of the Steering Committee had also spoken of the need for higher density housing at its previous meeting, where low densities were cited as a barrier to housing affordability. Mr. Loveland opined that the root of the congestion problem is that the region is not truly serious about addressing its transportation needs. Mr. Bowman agreed, citing the General Assembly's failure to seriously address the problem and the voters' failure to put pressure on the legislators to do so. He also noted that much of the traffic in York County is generated from outside the County and thus will continue to grow even if the County reaches its maximum build-out. In particular, Mr. Bowman cited the growing commuter traffic from the Middle Peninsula and its impact on congestion on Route 17 and the Colonial Parkway.

Mr. Cross reported that the staff had met with representatives of Continental Research to discuss the telephone survey, and he distributed copies of the latest version of the survey instrument, which incorporates the consultant's recommendations. Mr. Carter asked the members to review the survey over the next few days and, if they have any suggestions, to forward them to the staff by the end of next week (December 23). He added that the survey sample size will be 400 and that the consultants will conduct a "pre-test" to determine if any additional changes need to be made before the actual survey is conducted.

Chairman Barba asked the members to review their schedules to identify potential meeting dates in January. Mr. Cross stated that the staff would prepare a calendar with the various committees' and commissions' meeting dates and email it to the members.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.

TCC